



SOIL AND WATER *Resources*



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January 2017

Martin Rice Company of Bernie Receives 2016 International Exporter of the Year Award at Governors Conference on Agriculture

Martin Rice Company of Bernie received the 2016 International Exporter of the Year award during the Missouri Governor's Conference on Agriculture held in December. The International Exporter of the Year award recognizes those Missouri farmers and agribusinesses that are exporting their product around the world.

Martin Rice Company owners include Soil and Water Districts Commissioner Tim Martin, along with his brothers Mike and David. The three brothers accepted the award presented by Missouri Department of Agriculture Richard Fordyce. Martin Rice Company produces long grain and jasmine rice on its southeast Missouri farm. The company has dedicated thousands of acres to growing rice and operates its own processing facility at the same location. This family operation began more than 50 years ago when the Martins settled on 160 acres in the Missouri bootheel and, with their four children, cleared the land using mules. Now, three generations later, the same family farms over 7,000 acres of prime rice-growing land.

In January 2000, the family constructed a rice processing facility to add value to a crop grown on the farm for over 25 years.

Rice, homegrown and milled by Martin Rice Company, is shipped worldwide and is available in various sizes for both wholesale and retail sales so that customers can buy rice by the pound or by the truck full, direct from the farm.

In fact, earlier in 2016, Martin Rice Company donated 20 tons of high quality, long grain rice to Cuba, the first shipment of rice into Cuba since 2008. Martin Rice owners Tim, David, and Mike Martin, were members of the Missouri trade delegation in May, and Gov. Nixon distributed small bags of milled Martin Rice to Cuban attendees at an entrepreneurial forum that commemorated the rice shipment.



Missouri Department of Agriculture Director Richard Fordyce presents Mike Martin, David Martin and Soil and Water Districts Commissioner Tim Martin with the 2016 International Exporter of the Year award at the Governor's Conference on Agriculture.



MISSOURI
DEPARTMENT OF
NATURAL RESOURCES

Glen Cope Receives Missouri Agriculture Legacy Award at Governors Conference on Agriculture

Missouri Soil and Water Districts Commissioner Glen Cope received the Missouri Agriculture Legacy Award during the Governor's Conference on Agriculture held in December.

Cope has been remarkable in his dedication and service to the beef industry for many years. He continues to serve several state agriculture organizations and most recently has been serving as the chairman of the Missouri Beef Industry Council. "Missouri cattle producers demonstrate innovation and resilience each and every day and that rings most true with producers like Glen," said Fordyce. "The Cope family has dedicated their lives to producing quality beef for dinner tables everywhere."

Cope earned his degree in animal science from Missouri State University before returning to the family farm to partner with his father and brother and manage a 550-head commercial cow/calf herd that spans over two counties. Cope serves on the MFA Inc. board of directors for district 12 and was a member of the Agricultural Leadership of Tomorrow Class 12.

Glen and his wife, Leanne, have two children, Katie and Orran. Glen has said that one of his most important jobs is to make sure there is an opportunity to turn his farm over to the fifth generation, his children.



Soil and Water Districts Commissioner Glen Cope accepts the Missouri Agriculture Legacy Award from Missouri Department of Agriculture Director Richard Fordyce.

Dates to Remember

Feb. 1-3 - Missouri Natural Resources Conference at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach
mnrc.org

Feb. 1 - Missouri Soil and Water Districts Commission meeting at 1 p.m. at Tan-Tar-A Resort in Osage Beach
dnr.mo.gov/env/swcp/meetings.htm

More than \$29 million Obligated to Missouri Farmers for Soil and Water Conservation Practices

More than \$29 million in cost-share funds has been obligated by local county soil and water conservation districts in the first six months of the State fiscal year.

Local county soil and water conservation district boards, staff and conservation partners provide financial and technical assistance to farmers and operators to voluntarily implement locally approved soil and water conservation practices. Fifty different soil and water conservation practices are available to address the following resources issues:

- Management of grazing lands
- Woodland erosion
- Irrigation management
- Animal waste management
- Nutrient and pest application to crops and pastures
- Protection of sensitive areas such as streams and sinkholes
- Sheet, rill and gully soil erosion

To contact your local soil and water conservation district office or to find out more information, visit dnr.mo.gov/env/swcp/service/index.html.

Soil and water conservation practices are funded by the Parks, Soils and Water Sales Tax.



The photo above is an animal waste management practice that may be available through your local soil and water conservation district (SWCD). There are 50 conservation practices available from Missouri's 114 SWCDs. For a map of SWCDs, visit swcd.mo.gov.

Our Mission

The mission of the Soil and Water Conservation Program is to administer the policies and general programs developed by the Soil and Water Districts Commission for the saving of Missouri soil and water through the soil and water conservation districts in their work with landowners.

We All Need Trees - National Association of Conservation Districts State Poster Contest Winners

The annual National Association of Conservation Districts Poster Contest provides kindergarten through 12th grade students with an opportunity to share their thoughts about soil, water and related issues. It also highlights the educational efforts of the local soil and water conservation districts. State poster contest winners will advance to the national competition held in conjunction with the NACD annual meeting in Denver, Colorado. Large versions of the artwork are available online at on.mo.gov/2iRk899.



Class K-1

Lilly Maxwell, 1st grade East Carter County R-2
Carter County



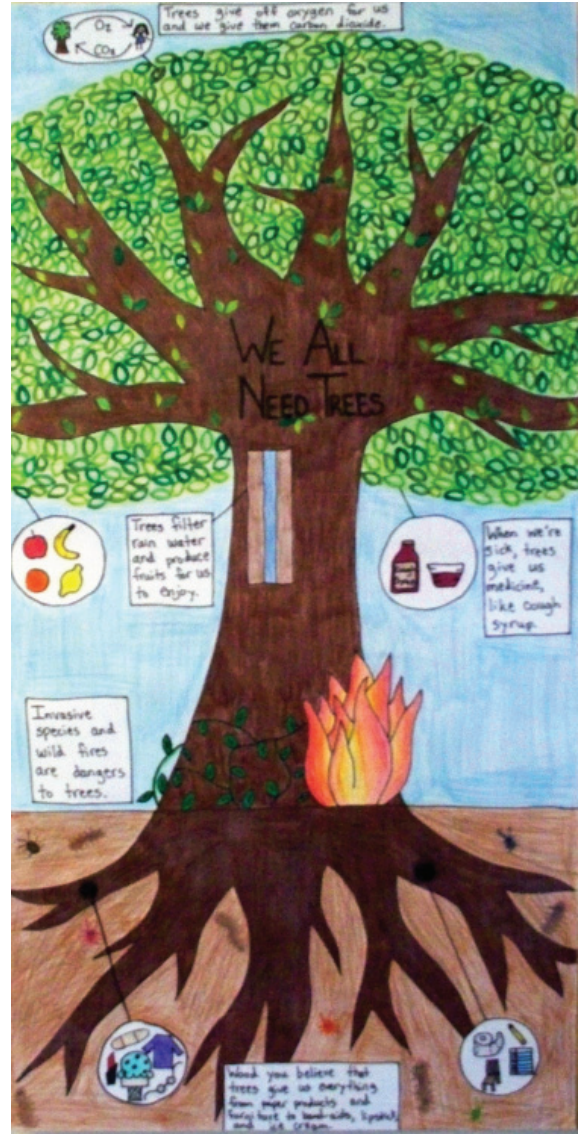
Class 2-3

Jack Kliethermes, 3rd grade St. George School
Osage County



Class 4-6

Abby Henry, 4th grade South Harrison Elementary
Harrison County



Class 7-9

Rachel Lensing, 8th grade St. George School
Gasconade County



Class 10-12

Jessica Venvertloh, 10th grade Fair Play School
Polk County



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